



COL "Rick" Harger is the incoming Commander of the 410th Contracting Support Brigade. Prior to selection for this position he was a US Army Senior Service College fellow with the University of Texas at Austin. His previous assignment was with Project Manager Heavy Brigade Combat Team under Program Executive Office Ground Combat Systems in Warren, Michigan, working fleet management for HBCTs and foreign military sales for Iraq.

Rick enlisted in the Army in 1983 as a Field Artillery Surveyor and served in the Kilo Target Acquisition Battery of the 29th Field Artillery BN, in the 5th Inf Div (M), Fort Polk, Louisiana, and later as a test support soldier in the Cold Regions Test Center, Fort Greely, Alaska. In 1989, he earned his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and entered commissioned service as a Transportation Corps Officer in 1991. Following his Platoon Leader and Detachment Commander assignments in Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah, Georgia, Rick served as the HHC 37th TRANSCOM Commander in Kaiserslautern, Germany, until mid 1997 and the Transportation Officer for the US Army Medical Materiel Center in Pirmasens, Germany, until mid 1999. After accession into the Acquisition Corps, COL Harger attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, graduating in December 2000 before moving to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to work as a procurement officer at the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia where he deployed as part of a DLA Contingency Support Team to Tikrit, Iraq, in 2003. He began his second tour in Germany in 2004 where he served as a contracting officer at the Wiesbaden Contracting Center (WCC), Chief of the Bagram, Afghanistan, Regional Contracting Office in 2005, Operations Chief back at the WCC, and finishing his tour in Germany as the S3 Plans and Policy Division Chief for the 409th Contracting Support Brigade, Seckenheim, Germany, until July of 2008. His next assignment was as the Product Manager for Force Sustainment Systems in Natick, Massachusetts, where he was responsible for total life cycle system support for all field feeding, field services, cargo aerial delivery, and shelter systems acquired by the Army. He completed his PM tour in July of 2011.

COL Harger's military education includes a graduate of the Army's Transportation Officer's Basic Course, the Combined Logistics Officer's Advanced Course, and the US Army Command and General Staff College. He holds a BBA in Business Management from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, an MSA in Public Administration from Central Michigan University, and an MSM in Contract and Acquisition Management from the Naval Postgraduate School.

COL Harger's awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Parachutist badge, and the Air Assault badge.

He is married to the former Tracey Metro of East Aurora, New York; they have three children: Daniel, Meghan, and Michael.